

Dec. 88

CHANDERY OFFICE
DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE

St. Josephs
Rensselaer
Dec. 1888.

Fort Wayne, Ind Dec. 28th 1888.

Miss. V. M. Drexel!

Our Rt. Rev. Bishop directs
me to say in answer to your
kind letter, that: he had
offered Rensselaer first
to the Benedictine Fathers;
and he waited for an answer
of acceptance for at least
eight years if not longer, but
they refused it, even with the
two hundred acres of land
he offered as a donation to
their Order. Now, just before
Our Rt. Rev. Bishop left for
Europe he had made arrangements
with the Fathers of the "Religious
Blood". They accepted the offer.

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would consider disappointments, are very often directed by our good God to greater achievements, to greater good and to his greater honor & Glory. Please accept this matter in that spirit of resignation to the Holy Will of God, and with this I wish you a very happy New Year, and consider me always ready to render you my service as far as my poor talents & energies may reach for what is good & pleasing to God.

I am sincerely yours in
our Lord,
Joseph H. Branner

are canonically received and have
even now to fathers there
making preparations for building.

Therefore, Our Rt. Rev. Bishop
says: he cannot possibly
receive another Order and
place the same right opposite
the one already received.

There is perhaps no person
who regrets as much as I
do that the Benedictine
Fathers did not accept that
long standing offer by our
Rt. Rev. Bishop, because
I like the "Benedictine".

Yet: "God's ways are not
our ways; and our ways
very often are not God's ways;
and even in your holy
zeal (and I, an unknown
dear friend of yours, appreciate that zeal
highly)